

## CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## POLICE MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: 05/04/2021

To: San Diego Media

From: Chula Vista Police Department

Contact: Lt. Dan Peak Phone: 619-585-5670 Fax: 619-691-5229

Subject: Update- May "Maya" Millete Investigation

Message: Investigative Update for May 4, 2021 (FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

Almost four months have now passed since the disappearance of May "Maya" Millete and the law enforcement officers working this case remain as dedicated as they did on the first day of opening the case. As time passes, significant events like May's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday occurred which emphasizes the urgency we all feel in bringing this case to a resolution. Our thoughts and prayers go out to May's family, friends, volunteers and community members who continue to search for Maya and look for answers regarding her disappearance.

Last month, the Chula Vista Police Department announced the formal partnership of a multi-agency working group including the San Diego County District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) with the primary goal of bringing May home to her family or bringing justice to May's family regarding her disappearance. This law enforcement partnership continues to work closely together and is in constant communication regarding Maya's disappearance.

The Chula Vista Police Department, San Diego County District Attorney's Office, NCIS and FBI have formed a working group with expertise from the District Attorney's Office, NCIS and FBI who share our goal of bringing May safely home and to bring to justice any individual who may have harmed May.

Statement from Chula Vista Police Chief Roxana Kennedy- "I recognize the pain and concern May's disappearance has brought to her family, friends and the community and I am grateful for the outpouring of support May's family has received during this difficult time. Our investigators along with the multi-agency working group are dedicated to finding May or bringing Justice to May's family.

We understand the frustration over limited public information about this case. We will not share any information publicly about this case that can in any way hinder or jeopardize the successful investigation and potential prosecution of anyone involved in her disappearance. Recently, we have begun working with the Cold Case Foundation to provide advocacy to May's family in conjunction with our investigation. Josephine Wentzel is now assigned by the Cold Case Foundation to this investigation.

Prepared By:	Lieutenant Peak	Approved By:	Captain Thunberg
Copies Sent To:	Media Contact List	Date/Time:	5/04/21 9:30 AM

We continue to keep May, and her family in our thoughts every day and pray for her safe return. I want to thank those that have reached out with information and tips to our detectives. Cases like this can hinge on the smallest piece of information which may lead to a break in the investigation."

Statement from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service- "NCIS and our law enforcement partners at the Chula Vista Police Department, the San Diego County District Attorney's Office, and the FBI are working diligently and urgently to determine the facts surrounding Maya's disappearance," said NCIS Southwest Field Office Special Agent in Charge Joshua Flowers. "Our hearts go out to Maya's family, friends, colleagues, and community as we continue to search for answers."

Statement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation- "The FBI shares the commitment with our law enforcement partners and the community who seek answers to Maya's disappearance," said FBI Special Agent in Charge Suzanne Turner. "The FBI continues to support this investigation and assist our partners at the Chula Vista Police Department, San Diego District Attorney's Office and NCIS by providing specialized investigative assistance and resources to supplement this exhaustive search for answers."

Since 01/11/2021, Detectives from CVPD have continuously investigated May's disappearance. Detectives also continue to share leads and evidence regarding May's disappearance with the multi-agency working group. The investigators have conducted numerous search warrants on physical locations, digital evidence and social media content as well as conducted interviews of witnesses to generate new leads and obtain evidence.

The investigators have also followed up on every tip or lead received since May's disappearance. The investigative steps and efforts to date are below;

- Interviews with 56 individuals to include family members, friends, neighbors and witnesses.
- Written 23 search warrants to include residences, vehicles, cellular and electronic devices, call detail
  records, financial records, social media and cloud data. One of these warrants was for May's home,
  which was searched on 01/23/2021. Another search warrant was served at a Millete relatives' home on
  04/01/2021.
- Reviewed over 55 tips on May's possible location and reason for disappearance. These tips have come
  from the local community and from around the country. Most recent tips have also included possible
  sightings of May in other states to include Wisconsin and New Mexico.

Investigators continue to review multiple items of evidence and are going over thousands of pages of data in the hopes of finding May.

The Chula Vista Police Department would also like to recognize the volunteer search efforts and the support from numerous community members assisting to locate May. Volunteers continue to look for May on a weekly basis in the hope of finding clues related to her disappearance.

The Chula Vista Police Department continues to be the primary point of contact for media inquiries and also continue to provide updates every two weeks until significant information or a break in the case occurs in the investigation. These updates will include any changes in the investigative numbers listed above. If there is any significant break in this case, a media advisory will be forwarded through normal communications and a press conference will be scheduled allowing ample time for the media to respond.

Anyone who may have any information regarding May's disappearance is asked to please contact San Diego County Crime Stoppers at 888-580-8477, or CVPD at 619-691-5151. No matter how small the detail, we ask the public to share that information with investigators or Crime Stoppers.

Media are instructed to direct all inquiries to PIO Lt. Dan Peak @ 619-585-5670.